

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 762
By Cooper

A RESOLUTION to recognize Jimmie Bearden on the occasion of
her retirement from AEDC Federal Credit Union.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those exemplary public servants who in their years of work have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Jimmie Bearden of Tullahoma is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for 48 years with the AEDC Federal Credit Union, and is now taking a much deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Martin College in Pulaski, Tennessee, Jimmie Bearden attended the Southeastern Regional Credit Union School at the University of Georgia at Athens; and

WHEREAS, an exemplary employee, Mrs. Bearden began her distinguished career with AEDC Federal Credit Union on June 13, 1956 as a clerk and was subsequently promoted to the position of Loan Officer in 1960; and

WHEREAS, named Assistant Manager in 1967, Jimmie Bearden was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of AEDC Federal Credit Union in 1968 and has enjoyed a highly successful tenure; and

WHEREAS, AEDC Federal Credit Union was established on July 12, 1951 when eight employees of Arnold Engineering Development Center pooled their monies to form a credit union and approval from the National Credit Union Administration was granted; and

WHEREAS, created to serve the employees of Arnold Research Organization (ARO) and civilian employees and military personnel of the Air Force and the Corps of Engineers at Arnold Engineering Development Center at Arnold Air Force Base, the first branch of the credit union was a corner desk in the ARO Benefits Office at AEDC; and

WHEREAS, after 53 years of operation and under the guidance of Jimmie Bearden for the last 36 years, AEDC Federal Credit Union serves more than 118,000 members from 500 select employee groups with assets totaling over \$961,000,000, making it the second largest credit union in Tennessee and in the top 100 nationwide; and

WHEREAS, AEDC Federal Credit Union currently has over 200 employees and 12 locations across Middle Tennessee to provide the quality service their customers have come to depend on, including 300 fee-free ATMs in Middle and East Tennessee in addition to account transactions by telephone and over the Internet; and

WHEREAS, under Jimmie Bearden's leadership AEDC Federal Credit Union was among the first in the nation to offer Share Draft accounts, to process Share Drafts in-house, to process credit cards in-house, to offer ATM services, to convert to an in-house computer system, and to begin an IRA program; and

WHEREAS, highly respected by her peers for her wisdom and expertise, Jimmie Bearden is a member of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions, having served on the Nominating Committee, the Communications Committee, the Education Committee, and the Share Insurance Committee. She has also served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Credit Union League and as Vice President of both the Tennessee Credit Union Executives Society and the Duck River Chapter of Credit Unions; and

WHEREAS, Jimmie Bearden has been an integral advisor to USERS, Inc., a cord data processing system provider, serving as a member of the Board of Directors, the Planning Committee and the Nominating Committee. Utilizing her credit union expertise in these positions she has been able to guide USERS, Inc. to the provision of computer services to credit unions all over the United States; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards or accolades, Jimmie Bearden received the Silver Knight of Management Award from the National Management Association (NMA), was voted Professional Woman of the Year by the Business and Professional Women's Club of Tullahoma, and received the National Association of Federal Credit Union's (NAFCU) Professional of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, in 1990 she was awarded the prestigious Golden Knight of Management Award by the Hi Tech Valley Council of NMA Chapters which is the highest award NMA

Councils can bestow and is given to the top executive whose reputation for outstanding leadership in industrial management is renowned; and

WHEREAS, actively involved in her community, Jimmie Bearden is a member of the Tullahoma Rotary Club, the Tullahoma Chamber of Commerce and a former member of the Finance Committee of Middle Tennessee State University; she was a former member and director of the Arnold Chapter of the National Management Association and was instrumental in the creation of a cooperative education program between local industry and Motlow State Community College; and

WHEREAS, a woman of deep and abiding faith, Mrs. Bearden is a member of First United Methodist Church in Tullahoma; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bearden enjoyed the loving companionship of her beloved husband, Finis Bearden, who has now passed on to his great reward, and is the proud mother of children Richard, James, and Diane Bearden; and devoted grandmother of Lex Bearden, Cole Bearden, and Lann Brumlik; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Jimmie Bearden has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her community, and her colleagues

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Jimmie Bearden our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in all her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such cop